

50th anniversary

This year we the JFC celebrate 50th anniversary.

In 1962, we started as the composers' union, and then we changed the name to the Japan Federation of Composers: JFC. In 1983, the JFC became incorporated body.

On 5th October, we had a reception to celebrate 50th anniversary.

Today I introduce three activities among our events.

The first one is Asian Music Festival as annual event, and the second, Japanese Composers which introduce Japanese composers' works. Since 2011 we add one more concert especially for young composers.

And the third is "JFC Composer Award". It is the activity carried out every other year.

Asian Music Festival

Asian Music Festival 2010 in Tokyo was not the official ACL festival; it was the special event of the ACL. Since then we have had Asian Music Festival as an annual event.

In Asian Music Festival 2011, we had one orchestral concert "Conductors are composers II", one chamber music concert (woodwind concert), one piano concert "To the Children", "Talk and Concert" at the Former Tokyo Music School Sogakudo in Ueno, lectures by four composers and one workshop of Myanmar harp.

From abroad about 7 orchestral works, 6 woodwind works, 35 chamber music works were submitted.

Taiwanese, Singaporean, Israeli and Korean composers attended the festival.

Composer from Taiwan and Singapore conducted their pieces at orchestral concert.

Just after the big earthquake, we had to wait for the answer from Bunkyo city who is the owner of the concert hall. Many concert halls canceled their concerts after the earthquake because of the problem of electricity.

Finally we could hold the festival, but we had only two month to prepare.

And also we had a difficulty to gather audience; it is a usual problem to

gather audience. But last year after the earthquake, people were less active than usual.

In 2012, we will have AMF2012 on 30th, 31st Oct. and 2nd Nov.

This year we will have three concerts; one orchestral concert, one chamber music concert and Talk and Concert at Sogakudo on the theme of celebration JFC 50th anniversary and the 40th anniversary of normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and China. We called for scores only in Japan and committee selected works among entries.

In the orchestral concert “Conductors are composers III” we perform 5 works by Japanese composers and one by Chinese; Internet Symphony No.1 Eroica by Tan Dun.

In the chamber music concert, we perform a piece by Qin Wenchen and Zhou Long. Both are pieces for pipa or pipa and shakuhachi. The works which will be performed in this concert are mainly pieces for Japanese traditional instruments and pipa.

In the concert at Sogakudo, two string quartets by Guo Yanwa and Hu Xiao will be performed by Quattro Piaceri. In this concert, yangqin will be featured and besides the traditional piece a contemporary piece for yangqin by Japanese composer will be performed. 7 works which will be performed in the concert includes two pieces for violin solo, two string quartets, one string trio and one piece for yangqin.

These three concerts were supported by Bunkyo City and Taito City.

Young composers in the JFC

We have had a concert series “Japanese composers” for about 40 years. It started in 1974, as one-night concert. In 1981, this concert became two-night concert. In 2011 we added one more night especially for young composers. In 2012 January, 8 works by under 40 years old composers were performed. Mr. Kawashima, one of the directors of the JFC is the producer of this concert. He has made chances for the young generation to attend activities of the JFC. Also he asked young composers to join our activities.

In the concert of 2012, works for clarinet, piano and violoncello, or the ensemble among these instruments were premiered by three young performers.

In 2013, 8 young composers' works will be performed by three young performers.

About 15 composers join into the JFC on average a year. Some of them are eager to join our activities, but it costs much to join our activities for the young.

To manage concerts, we ask composers to cover some fees for the concert.

In this concert series, we have tried to reduce their expenditure for the concert.

*Please listen to the piece of Toru Nakatani.

Mr. Nakatani won the 3rd prize of Takemitsu composer award in 2008.

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JFC Composer Award

We started to have the JFC composer Award competition in 2001. And we have had this competition every other year since 2010.

The 6th JFC Composer Award Competition was hold in Nov.11, 2011 at Toppan Hall. 7 works selected among 38 entr ee were performed.

The winner was Ms MIYAUCHI Yasuno. Her piece "Mimesis -for multiple keyboard harmonicas"- will be published by the JFC this year. It is not the usual score; almost the direction how to perform. The performance was done by 9 keyboard harmonica players in the concert hall.

It takes one week to select the winner by three jury members.(Jury were Makoto Nomura, Masahiro Miwa and Toshio Nakagawa)

The announcement of the winner was informed on web site and twitter.

The long comments of jury were announced on web site.

Next year, we will have the 7th JFC composer Award competition in December.

The next year's theme is the work performed by composer herself/himself.

A composer has to attend the performance.

*Please listen to the piece of Ms. MIYAUCHI.

Sogakudo hall

Several concert halls had damages after the big earthquake in 2011 March. Of course all of the concert hall must be earthquake-proof, to be ready for the next big earthquake which maybe happen in Tokyo within 30 years, the government started to check public constructions. Sogakudo hall is the oldest concert hall in Japan,it takes for years to examine its construction. It is pity we cannot use this hall at least 5 years ; we have used this hall for many years for Talk and Concert series. So the concert on 2nd November will be the last concert series of this concert in Sogakudo.